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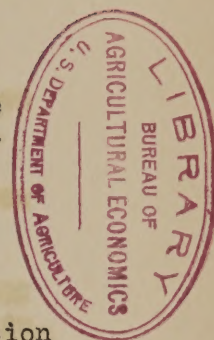
REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
NATIONAL AAA CONFERENCE

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JULY 10-13, 1940

The following are reports of committees as adopted by the National AAA Conference which met in Washington, D. C., July 10 to 13, 1940. These reports are recommendations to the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in connection with the development of the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program. The provisions of the program will be completed and announced by early September.



1. SOIL-BUILDING PRACTICES

Your committee recommends that the following changes in Section 2 (Soil-Building Goals, Payments, and Practices) of ACP 1940 be approved for the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program.

No changes are recommended in those soil-building practices not mentioned in this report.

1. Item (e), Section 2, relative to hurricane damaged woodland in the Northeastern States be omitted for 1941.

2. Delete the last sentence in the second paragraph of item (g), Section 2, which reads as follows:

"No credit for meeting the soil-building goal shall be given for the planting and protection of forest trees planted under a cooperative agreement entered into with the Forest Service in connection with the Prairie States Forestry Project."

This is recommended inasmuch as farmers cooperating in the Prairie States Forestry Project will furnish the stock, pay the cost of planting and provide protection, and it is felt that the general statement relative to payment to farmers who receive aid from Federal or State agencies will take care of this problem.

Schedule of Soil-Building Practices

3. Amend practice (1) "Application of materials" to read as follows:

(1) Application of the following materials to, or in connection with the seeding of, perennial or biennial legumes, perennial grasses, winter legumes, lespedeza, crotonaria, annual ryegrass, natal grass, or permanent pasture, and in the case of super-

phosphate, to or in connection with green manure crops in orchards and such other crops as may be specified by the Regional Director with the approval of the Administrator.

4. Amend practice (6) to read as follows: Seeding alfalfa or seeding lespedeza, sericea in areas approved by the AAA.--1 unit per acre.

5. Reduce the rate of credit for practice (11) from 4 to 3 units per acre.

6. Amend practice (20) to read as follows: Construction of 200 linear feet of standard terrace for which proper outlets are provided at a rate of credit not to exceed 75 percent of the cost of the practice in any area recommended by the Regional Director and approved by the AAA. However, in no area shall the credit exceed 2 units per 200 feet.

7. Amend practice (21) to read as follows: Construction of concrete rubble masonry, or treated lumber check dams or drops and measuring weirs for the control of erosion, leaching, and seepage of irrigated farmland and orchard land (applicable only in arid and semi-arid areas) 7 cubic feet of concrete or rubble masonry. -- 1 unit. 100 board feet of treated lumber. -- 2 units.

8. Amend practice (23) to read as follows: Construction of one cubic yard of rip-rap of rock or other suitable material approved by the AAA along water courses having active erosion for the control of erosion on farmland. Rate of credit--1 unit.

9. Amend practice (27) to include stalks of millet as well as stalks of sorghum or sudan grass.

10. Amend practice (35) to read as follows: Contour seeding of small grain crops, sweet sorghums, millets, soybeans, and peas when drilled.--1/10 unit per acre. (Change underlined.)

11. Omit practice (37) regarding contour cultivation.

Forestry

12. Amend practice (40) to read as follows: Planting one acre to forest trees by use of forest tree seedlings or forest tree nuts (including shrubs beneficial to wild life), provided such trees are protected from fire and grazing and cultivated in accordance with good tree culture and wild life management practice. The number to be planted per acre and the varieties will be determined by the regional director with the approval of the Administrator of the AAA. Payment rate per acre will be determined by the regional director on basis of cost with the approval of the AAA Administrator, but in no case may the payment exceed \$7.50 per acre.

13. Amend practice (43) to read as follows: Eradication or control of seriously infested plots of perennial, noxious weeds designated by the State Committee with the approval of the AAA on farm land in accordance with approved methods.--5 units per acre.

New Practices

Your committee recommends that the following new practices be included in the 1941 Agricultural Conservation Program.

14. With prior approval of the county committee renovation of pasture land in areas designated by the AAA, with the following general specifications: "The renovation of fenced non-crop open pasture land which when improved will be capable of carrying at least one animal unit for each 2 acres during the normal pasture season by removing brush, leveling hummocks, mowing and reseeding where necessary and applying sufficient liming material and fertilizer to attain a good stand. If materials are applied in accordance with practice specifications, payment will also be allowed for the use of these materials.--2 units per acre.

15. In areas recommended by the regional director and approved by the AAA, woodland fire protection in accordance with specifications of the AAA (woodland areas qualifying for payment under practices (38), (39), (40), and (41)), will not qualify under this practice.--1 unit for each 15 acres.

16. Conservation of Farmlands through Elimination of Destructive Plants.

(a) Prickly pear and cactus:

(1) Light infestation	\$0.50 per acre
(2) Medium infestation	0.75 per acre
(3) Heavy infestation	1.00 per acre

(b) Mesquite:

(1) Light infestation	\$0.50 per acre
(2) Medium infestation	1.00 per acre
(3) Heavy infestation	2.00 per acre

(c) Cedar:

(1) Light infestation	\$0.75 per acre
(2) Medium infestation	1.00 per acre
(3) Heavy infestation	1.50 per acre

(d) Lechuguilla:

(1) Heavy infestation	\$0.50 per acre
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17. Fall and winter listing at right angles to prevailing winds in the fall after September 15, and not later than November 30 on unprotected cropland (except when carried out on protected summer fallow or as a part of a seeding operation).--1 unit for each 9 acres.

General Recommendations

18. Your committee recommends that in counties which elect to eliminate seeding practices or other practices or payments, lime and superphosphate may be furnished under a pasture conservation program. The amount of such materials for pasture improvement would be determined by the estimated savings from the elimination of practices and payments.

19. On those farms maintaining 50 percent or more of the cropland in perennial grasses or perennial legumes up to 1/2 of the soil-building allowance may be earned by the performance of such supplemental conservation practices not normally carried out on the farm as are recommended by the State committee and approved by the AAA.

20. It is recommended that the terminology dealing with soil-building goal payments be deleted and all payments expressed in terms of dollars and cents.

21. That all recommendations be approved regionally and submitted to the Administrator at least 3 weeks prior to the start of the National Conference and that a sub-committee be appointed on a regional basis to assimilate all information and facts and have such information available for the consideration of the National Conference Soil-Building Practice Committee.

22. More latitude should be provided in soil-building practices in the National Docket in order to provide for regional differences in cost, soil, and climate.

23. That the group intervals for determining rates of credit for the application of limestone be revised to avoid abrupt changes and to take into account costs in excess of \$5.00 per ton.

2. INCREASING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM

The Committee realizes at the outset that all items and provisions of the program have a bearing upon its effectiveness. The committee also realizes that the program has been effective but that certain provisions may be changed to increase that effectiveness. It was the unanimous belief of the committee that no major changes should be made at the present time. In other words, the general structure as now outlined should be retained.

The suggestions given have been classified under three general

headings: (1) New Provisions (Bulletin and Legislation); (2) Administrative; and (3) Instructions and Information.

NEW PROVISIONS (BULLETIN AND LEGISLATION)

The committee recommends:

1. That Sec. 2, Para. (g) of the National docket be changed to read "June 30" instead of "August 31" in order to enable States, if desired, to have an earlier closing date. Otherwise that States and Regions be allowed to set closing dates that best fit their needs.
2. That marketing quotas be extended to such other crops as the Department, after study, finds would be practical and desirable.
3. That soil-building goal and unit credit for practices be eliminated and return to soil-building allowance and dollar credit for practices.
4. That the 80% rule with respect to payments on allotments be permitted in regions where desired and on such crops as the law permits.
5. That the county committee, with the approval of the State committee and the Regional Director, be given authority to require as a condition of payment that producers on the farm follow a cropping and farm management plan for the farm that will, over a period of years, conserve the soil and increase its productivity. Such a plan would provide for the carrying out on the various parts of the farm of the needed soil-building practices for the proper balance between various kinds of crops grown, for the elimination of erosion hazards, for the restoration of the necessary humus to the soil, and for the adoption of other good land use practices.
6. That the AAA consider whether it would further effectuate the soil conservation purposes of the program to give county committees authority to require that a certain portion of the soil-building assistance on all farms in the county be set aside to be earned only by carrying out specified soil-building practices.
7. That the AAA give further consideration to the desirability of eliminating the total and general allotment provisions in Area B and requiring in lieu thereof that each farm grow a specified acreage of erosion-resisting crops, and that such a change be made if determined to be desirable.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The committee recommends:

8. That the National conference be held at an earlier date next year.
9. That the 1941 National, Regional, and State bulletins be issued at a very early date.
10. That close cooperation be continued with all State and Federal agencies working on agricultural problems.
11. That ways be worked out to emphasize the long-time soil-conserving practices needed on individual farms and to achieve the adjustments in farm business which will make the acreage adjustments and soil conservation practices most effective.
12. That State and county committeemen make a more thorough check where there is indication that any device is being used to defeat the purposes of the program and that every effort be made to secure a more uniform administration of this provision.
13. The committee approves in principle the giving of more leeway to the States and Regions or areas in formulating and operating the programs to attain more conservation.

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

The committee recommends:

14. That the community and county committeemen should receive more instruction as to the administration and conservation policies of the program in order that they may assume and discharge the responsibility that is expected of them; that the ultimate aim should be that this program should be administered by farmers.
15. That a further effort be made to reach absentee landlords in their localities with specific information about the value of soil conservation under the program for their farms.
16. That further effort be devoted toward finding definite ways to get farmers to think of soil-building payments as financial aid to carry out needed soil-conserving and soil-building practices rather than allotted payments to be earned in the easiest way possible.

17. That community committeemen, county committeemen, farmer fieldmen and field women, and State committeemen make a greater effort to increase the amount and effectiveness of soil conservation achieved under the program.

18. It is recognized that all participating farmers should make full use of approved soil conservation measures. Therefore this committee recommends that the community, county and state committeemen act as leaders in carrying out needed soil-building practices on their own farms, at least by participating to the full extent of the soil-building assistance available.

19. That a review be made of existing forms, for the purpose of standardization and simplification. No changes, however, should be made in such forms which would tend to lessen the educational values which they carry or the efficiency of the workers.

The Committee believes that the maximum effectiveness of the program will be realized when both farm and non-farm people have a proper understanding of and attitude toward the farm program, and therefore anything that can be done to accomplish this will increase the effectiveness of the program.

3. RATES OF PAYMENT AND ALLOWANCES

The committee on rates of payment and allowances has considered the questions relating to rates of payment and allowances that have come to its attention with respect to the 1941 program. The following recommendations are submitted:

1. Consideration was given to the question of continuance of that provision under which there may be earned with respect to any farm at least \$20. It was recommended that the minimum allowance of \$20 per farm be maintained for the 1941 program. In the discussion of this motion the suggestion of the B.A.E. that a soil-building allowance of \$30 to \$40 be set up for family size farms was considered, but this proposal was not given the recommendation of the committee.

2. The special forestry allowance of \$30 that was provided under the 1940 program was given consideration, but the committee recommended that this special forestry allowance be discontinued for 1941.

3. Consideration was given to the procedure for determining payments with respect to range land and noncrop pasture, but in view of the fact that this subject had been discussed in the range conference and in view of the fact that the study on the various proposals for setting up flat rates had not been completed, it was agreed that the

Washington office should make the final determination with respect to this procedure after the study had been completed.

4. The committee discussed the question of setting aside a part of the orchard allowance to be used only for tree removal, but opposed the principle of ear-marking any funds for this purpose and a resolution was passed opposing the ear-marking of any further funds for soil-building practices.

5. It was recommended that the unit basis be eliminated in connection with the soil-building practices and that the dollar and cents basis be established in connection with soil-building allowances and soil-building payments.

6. The present method of determining increases for small payments was considered and it was unanimously recommended that the increases for small payments be changed to apply per person per county instead of per person per farm.

7. The general subject of establishing rates and adjusting rates in the event that estimates of participation are changed was considered and it was the recommendation of the committee that the same relationships between special crop rates of payment and soil-building practice allowances for 1941 should be set up as apply when the revised 1940 rates and allowances are announced.

8. The rate of payment for general crops was given consideration and the following motion recommending further study of the data with respect to the establishment of general rates of payment was approved:

It is believed that the data which are now being used for the purpose of apportioning funds among the various commodities pursuant to the formula set forth in Section 15 of the Act do not accurately reflect the acreage sacrifice and value sacrifice which are being made in the case of general crops. Therefore, it is requested that a study be made of the data used in determining the "usual acreage" on which the computed general allotment is based and that a study be made to determine if any areas now in Area A should be placed in Area B. In any event the same method should be used throughout Area A in determining the usual acreage of general crops at the time the State and county general acreage allotments are established.

4. CROP CLASSIFICATION

The Committee on Crop Classification respectfully submits the following recommendations for the consideration and approval of the conference.

1. Item (a), section 3, of the National Bulletin which now reads "Corn planted for any purpose (except sown corn used as a cover crop or green manure crop and sweet corn or popcorn grown in a home garden for use on the farm)" should be changed to read as follows: "Corn, including popcorn, planted for any purpose (except sown corn used as a cover crop or green manure crop and sweet corn or popcorn grown in a home garden for use on the farm); provided, however, that if an acreage of corn or potatoes is destroyed by insects, flood, or other uncontrollable causes, all or any part of the acreage destroyed may be reclassified as not having been devoted to the crop, provided than an acreage equal to the amount reclassified is planted to replace that acreage".

The change in connection with popcorn is one of clarification. It merely emphasizes the fact that popcorn grown commercially is soil-depleting. The exception which relates to the reclassification of corn or potato acreage in cases where such acreage is destroyed by insects, flood, or other uncontrollable causes is the extension of a provision to all regions which is being used this year by the North Central Region. It is called to the attention of the conference that by reclassifying land under this provision farmers who had overplanted their allotments will not be brought into compliance.

2. Item (g) relating to peanuts should be changed from "Peanuts harvested for nuts or dug for hay" to "Peanuts dug for any purpose".

3. Item (h) which now reads "Broomcorn planted for any purpose" should be changed to read "Broomcorn planted, except in designated areas, when used as a cover crop which is not harvested". This change will permit the use of broomcorn as a cover crop in designated wind erosion areas as a protection against wind erosion.

4. Due to the fact that the committee on crop classification did not know just what the recommendations of the Truck and Vegetable Crops Committee would be, its only recommendation in connection with the soil-depleting classification of truck and vegetable crops would be that such classification be in accord with the definition of commercial vegetables as adopted by the Truck and Vegetable Crop Committee.

5. Item (r) which now reads "Wheat (on a non-wheat-allotment farm), oats, barley, rye, emmer, speltz, or mixtures of these crops, harvested for grain" should be changed to read as follows: "Wheat (on a non-wheat-allotment farm), oats (except fall sown oats in areas designated by the Administrator as areas subject to serious water erosion during the winter months and where there are no locally adapted biennial or perennial winter cover crops), barley, rye, emmer, speltz, or mixtures of these crops, harvested for grain". This change would apply primarily in the southeastern states where the expansion in winter cover is highly desirable to prevent sheet erosion. The committee would like to point out that in this area it is not

practicable to grow biennial or perennial winter cover on any large area because of the limited amount of cropland per farm person, which averages about 6 acres, in addition to the fact that there are very few biennial or perennial cover crops which are adapted to the area. Annual winter legumes are both hazardous and expensive because of the inability of the area to produce seed.

6. The wording of item (s) relating to classification of small grains harvested for hay should be changed so as to clarify the requirement that the mixture of winter legumes and small grains should contain at least 25 percent by weight of winter legume seed rather than 25 percent by weight of plant growth.

7. The question of tolerance in the case of those commodities on which parity payments are based was discussed by the committee. It is felt that no changes are necessary for cotton and tobacco. The committee recommended in the case of corn, wheat and rice that in States, upon the recommendation of the State committee and the approval of the regional director, an acreage of wheat, corn or rice not in excess of the larger of three acres or three percent of the respective allotment unintentionally planted in excess of such allotment may be disposed of in a manner and within the time specified by the regional director.

8. The following exception should be added to item (s) relating to the classification of rye for hay (except (3) rye for hay in designated areas upon the approval of the Administrator).

Those items in section 3 of the National Bulletin for 1940 not specifically mentioned in this report were deemed satisfactory by the committee.

5. GREAT PLAINS

1. As a Great Plains Committee, we wish to recommend to the National Conference that a statement be included in the National AAA Bulletin for 1941 expressly authorizing the utilization of the Sherman County type practice program in additional counties in the Great Plains Area, where a referendum is conducted and the producers favor such a plan.
2. The Great Plains Committee wishes to recommend that Practice 28, protecting land designated as restoration land, be amended to apply only to restoration land designated under the 1939 program. This change is requested due to the fact that the original commitment providing for a total payment of \$1.50 to be paid over a three-year period has been met with respect to restoration land designated under the 1938 program.

3. The Great Plains Committee recommends that the section covering rates of payments for restoration land under the 1941 docket be written as follows:

Maximum payment - 15¢ per acre for each acre of restoration land designated for the farm provided that State Committees may approve a decrease rate of payment or eliminate this payment for their State with the approval of the Regional Director.

This recommendation is made to meet the problem common to some States where practically all restoration land was designated in 1938 and the original three-year commitment has been met and little additional restoration land was designated in 1940 and little is expected to be designated in future years. In these States, it is felt that the restoration land allowance is all that should continue to apply to old tracts of restoration land designated in 1938 which still lack sufficient vegetative cover to be reclassified as range or noncrop pasture land.

4. With the exception to the above listed amendments recommended with respect to the restoration land provisions of the 1940 bulletin, the Great Plains Committee wishes to recommend that the restoration land program for 1941 be identical with the 1940 program.
5. The Great Plains Committee recommends that the number of units in the soil-building goal for wind erosion farms (farms which are owned or leased by a conservation district, by an association determined by the State Committee to have been organized for conservation purposes, or by a State Agency authorized by law to own or lease land for conservation or erosion control purposes) be determined with respect to the 1941 program by dividing the total possible payment for such farm by \$1.50.
6. In view of the fact that there are several States in the range area that have combined the range conservation program and the agricultural conservation program into a single program, consideration was given to the question of whether or not a single national conservation program bulletin be written covering the specifications of both programs in 1941. After careful consideration of the various questions involved in such a procedure, the Great Plains Committee wishes to recommend that the agricultural conservation bulletin be separate and distinct from the national range conservation bulletin for 1941.
7. The Great Plains Committee recommends that wherever two or more separately owned tracts of land are considered as a single farming unit in connection with the 1941 program by the county committee that payments and deductions computed for all individuals interested in the proceeds of the crops grown thereon be divided in accordance with such individuals' contribution to the acreage allotments for the farm.

This recommendation is of vital importance in the Great Plains Area

where it is a common practice for an operator to include in his operating unit several tracts of land owned by different individuals.

8. Recognizing the value of tree plantings in the control of wind erosion and stabilization of land in the Great Plains Area, and recognizing also the high cost of nursery stock, together with necessary land preparation and other limiting factors involved in establishing stands of forest trees in the Great Plains Area, the Great Plains Committee wishes to recommend that the practice payment for the planting of forest trees in the Great Plains Area remain at \$7.50 per acre as was paid under the 1940 program.
9. The Great Plains Committee wishes to call to the attention of each State Committee the importance of considering the factor of timely application of specific practices to be carried out on restoration land in order to encourage its return to a permanent vegetative cover as rapidly as possible. Each State Committee should consider carefully the inclusion of definite time limitations for the institution of specific practices on restoration land. This recommendation is in line with a memorandum addressed to the Great Plains Committee by the National County Agents Association requesting that "all practices used on restoration land, whether required or voluntary, be completed between February 1 and July 1 in order that weed cover can be established as further protection against wind erosion."
10. The recommendation submitted by the Sutton County Land Use Planning Committee and the Sheep and Goat Raisers Association of Texas that a special practice for the eradication of bitterweed be included in the 1941 range conservation program was presented to the Great Plains Committee. In view of the fact that this proposal had been reviewed and a decision reached at the Range Conference at the Annual Meeting in San Angelo, Texas, June 28, this committee feels that it is not within its province to make a further recommendation.

6. GRANT OF AID

It is the opinion of the Committee that the grant of aid project has been well received, has been responsible for more participation, and has materially increased conservation on the farms cooperating in the Agricultural Conservation Program. Therefore, it is the recommendation of this Committee that necessary provisions be made to extend the grant of aid project to additional areas and to increase the effectiveness of this project under the 1941 Program.

The Committee, after consideration of the various questions outlined in the National Conference program, and other suggestions referred to it, makes the following recommendations:

1. THAT the term "Grant of Aid" be discontinued and some other term be used, preferably "Soil-building Advances". Other suggested terms for consideration by the Administrator are (a) "Soil-building Materials Project", (b) "Soil-building Materials and Terracing Program", and (c) "Conservation Materials".

2. THAT the project be continued substantially as in 1940, except that, Plan No. 1 or Plan No. 2 outlined in the National Conference program may be adopted in any area upon recommendation of the Regional Director and approval by the Administrator.

3. THAT the soil-building practice rate for the application of ground limestone in any county be comparable to the cost of material delivered to farms. It was the opinion of the Committee that the cost of spreading the material is a reasonable contribution on the part of the producer to the soil-building practice.

4. THAT the maximum amount of material that can be furnished for any farm be established by the respective regional Directors upon approval by the Administrator, but in no case shall it exceed 100% of the soil-building allowance, plus the small payment increase, or 75% of the total estimated Agricultural Conservation Program payment for the farm, whichever is larger.

5. THAT phosphate be made available to all areas recommended by the Division Directors and that the allocation of available supplies be made by the Administrator's office in as equitable a manner as possible.

6. THAT 18 or 20% superphosphate be furnished in any State where it can be purchased and delivered at reasonable prices.

7. THAT the liming material specifications, established in each State or regional bulletin, be used in advertising for grant of aid liming material in such State.

8. THAT terracing specifications be adapted to conditions in each State or county after consideration of existing specifications in the respective States established by other Agencies.

9. THAT the vetch and pea project be continued in 1941.

10. THAT consideration be given to encouraging the shipment to county associations of grant of aid materials in advance of taking requests from farmers to facilitate delivery of such materials.

11. THAT where practicable potash, additional seeds, and forest trees be offered as grants of aid.

7. TRUCK AND VEGETABLE CROPS

The Committee has carefully and in detail considered the recommendations of the 1940 National Vegetable Conference and additional recommendations referred to the Committee. We submit the following recommendations:

1. That the vegetable program be continued in every State unless the State committee recommends, with the approval of the Regional Director, within two weeks after issuance of the National bulletin, that it not be effective in that State, and further that this means that there would be no addition to the soil-building allowance on account of commercial vegetables.

That in any non-vegetable allotment county in which it is determined that over 400 acres of commercial vegetables are usually grown, a deduction of \$20 per acre will be made for each acre of vegetables grown in 1941 in excess of 3 acres or the usual acreage, whichever is larger, on any farm on which a special crop allotment is made or a general allotment upon approval of the state committee and the Regional Director.

2. In designating commercial vegetable counties in 1941, any county which produced in 1938 or 1939 as much as 400 acres of commercial vegetables on farms which usually produce 3 acres or more, shall be designated a commercial vegetable county; provided, however, that upon request by the State committee and approval by the Regional Director other counties which produce less than 400 acres of commercial vegetables may be designated as commercial vegetable counties.

The acreage of Irish potatoes in non-designated commercial potato counties shall not be included as vegetables in designating counties but after such county is designated as a commercial vegetable county, Irish potatoes shall be classified as commercial vegetables in such county.

3. In classifying vegetables in 1941, commercial vegetables means the acreage of annual and perennial vegetables of which any portion of the production is sold to persons not living on the farm, except as follows:
 - (a) No dried beans shall be classified as vegetables.
 - (b) No cow peas, including black-eyed peas, shall be classified as vegetables.
 - (c) Sweetpotatoes shall not be classified as vegetables except where requested by the State committee and approved by the Regional Director.

- (d) Bulbs and flowers shall not be classified as vegetables.
 - (e) Watermelons shall not be classified as vegetables.
 - (f) In States that do not have vegetable allotments, perennials may be classified other than vegetables except for the purpose of computing vegetable deductions.
 - (g) Processing crops shall be classified as vegetables except in areas where it is administratively determined that they are not diverted into direct competition with fresh vegetables.
4. That provision be made by the AAA to complete and announce the vegetable program and issue allotments at least thirty days prior to the earliest planting date for each area.
 5. We recommend that the 1941 National AAA Conference be called not later than June 1 in order that all programs may be completed and announced by July 1.
 6. That the payment rate per acre for the vegetable acreage allotment and the deduction rate per acre for vegetables remain as in 1940.
 7. That the present program provision for establishing vegetable allotments of not less than 3 acres on individual farms be retained but provide for the State Committee, with assistance of a vegetable advisory committee, to have authority to establish individual farm allotments at 1 acre or anything less than 3 acres in individual States or designated areas within any State.
 8. Vegetable allotments for new growers shall be made within the county allotment.
 9. Payments shall be made on the vegetable allotment to new farms in compliance.
 10. Vegetable producers who plant less than 80% of the vegetable acreage allotment shall be paid on 125% of their planted acreage of vegetables.
 11. We commend to the National Conference Practice Committee the soil-building practice recommendations of the 1940 National Vegetable Conference for due consideration.
 12. We concur in the recommendations of the 1940 National Vegetable Conference relating to adjustment of market supplies.
 13. We unanimously endorse Senate Bill No. 4007 and its companion bill, H.R. 9799, relating to marketing quotas for lettuce and melons in the States of California and Arizona, and further, we endorse the

principal of making marketing quotas available for use by other commodity groups when needed.

14. We request that producers of processed crops be represented at any future vegetable conferences and insist a special effort be made by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to secure such representation.
15. The committee recommends for consideration of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration the base period 1936-1940 (five-year average) be used for vegetables instead of the present ten-year average 1928-1937 used for all crops in computing funds under the formulae in the Act. If there is no administrative difficulty in such change, we recommend legislation to effect this change.

8. ORCHARDS

The committee on orchards recommends the following practices for inclusion in the 1941 program:

1. Maintenance of Permanent Cover in Orchards or Vineyards subject to erosion

Upon prior approval of the county committee, a practice shall be provided for the maintenance of a permanent cover in orchards or vineyards subject to erosion. The practice shall be limited to irrigated land having an erosive slope. Payment for this practice shall be at the rate of \$1.50 per acre.

2. Practice Payment for Contour Irrigation

Upon prior approval of the county committee practice payment shall be provided for contour irrigation on sloping orchards and vineyards. Payments shall be made only in the year in which the change is made from old erosive methods of irrigation. The rate of payment shall be \$1.50 per acre.

3. Contour Planting of Orchards

Upon prior approval of the county committee, a practice payment shall be made for planting fruit and nut trees on the contour where because of slopes it is justified to prevent erosion. Payment shall be made at the rate of \$1.50 per acre.

4. Removal of Marginal Apple Trees

A practice payment shall be included for the removal of marginal apple trees. In counties designated by the

State committee and approved by the Regional Director, and with the prior approval of the county committee, the removal of diseased or uneconomic apple trees, the major portion of whose fruit is of inferior quality. Credit to be given only for the removal of permanent trees, and not for the removal of filler or semi-permanent trees. Land so cleared shall not be used for the growing of depleting crops during the year for which payment is made. The rate of payment per tree shall be determined by the Secretary but no payment shall be made for trees less than 5" in diameter. Not more than \$15 per acre may be earned under this practice.

9. ALLOTMENT AND YIELD PROCEDURE

The committee on allotment and yield procedure makes the following recommendations:

1. That no payment be made on new farm cotton allotments.
2. That careful consideration be given to the revision of the present procedure for establishing new farm allotments with a view to restricting the number and amount of allotments in those commodities in which a substantial adjustment is being made by established growers.
3. That the State Committee in each State be responsible for limitation of allotments on farms consisting of newly developed or cleared land; so that such allotments will be relatively smaller than allotments on nearby old farms.
4. That a simplified allotment procedure of using the previous year's allotment or usual acreage with proper adjustments be applied where legislation permits and in areas where rotation systems do not make the procedure inapplicable.
5. That provisions be made whereby the retiring of crop land to properly seeded and maintained pasture will not reduce the tilled acreage determination for cotton which would otherwise be made for these farms.
6. That regulations continue to provide sufficient latitude for adjusting wheat allotments downward in any area, in which some former wheat farms are no longer adapted to growing wheat.
7. With the recommendation of the Regional Director and approval of the Administrator the non-allotment provisions may be made to work automatically, depending upon the acreage classified as devoted to the respective crop.
8. That peanut acreage allotments be established for all farms producing peanuts for market in States in which peanut acreage allotments are determined.

9. That so far as practicable accurate yield data be obtained on allotment crops on allotment farms.

10. That the establishment of total soil-depleting allotments be discontinued in those parts of the "B" area recommended by the Regional Director and approved by the Administrator.

11. That continuing efforts be made to obtain marketing quota provisions on additional commodities in order that allotment provisions may be rendered more effective.

10. DETERMINATION OF PERFORMANCE

Your committee has considered and discussed at length the suggestions made in connection with the determination of performance and submits the following report and recommendations:

1. THAT insofar as possible, all operators be notified in advance of the 1941 planting season of the measured acreages in fields surrounded by permanent boundaries, and during the ensuing year additional study be given to the best method for furnishing such information.

2. THAT we recommend acreages to be planted to any particular crop not be surveyed out in advance of the planting season, either at county association expense or by encouraging operators to employ men who have previously qualified as performance reporters. We recommend that experimental work be conducted to ascertain the means and cost of furnishing such data for special crops where, in the opinion of the State committee, such action is considered advisable.

3. THAT the various State committees, with the approval of the Regional Director, check performance at such times as are necessary, giving special consideration to the proper time for starting, to making as few visits to the farms as is commensurate with accurate checking and to the policy in adjoining States having similar problems.

4. THAT the spot check is essential and should be continued, also that the men employed as spot checkers be well trained and carefully selected.

5. THAT increased emphasis be placed on the qualifications and training of county performance supervisors as a means of raising the standard and lessening the cost of checking performance.

6. THAT performance reporters be allowed to do only a limited volume of work before being spot checked as to their acceptability for checking performance.

7. THAT in considering each proposed practice for inclusion in the 1941 program consideration be given to the practicability and cost of checking performance on such practice and that, insofar as possible, the practice requirements not require revisits to the farm.

8. THAT the frequency of rephotography be based on the amount of change in farm and field boundaries and other features such as terraces, drainage, cleared areas, roads, etc., and that on the average rephotography should be secured at intervals of from 3 to 6 years; that insofar as practicable the ratioed enlargements be so handled as to require as few replacements as possible in order that a greater portion of the funds available for aerial photographic work can be applied to securing rephotography.

9. THAT a careful study be made of the use of aerial photography at different scales to determine whether a better quality of performance determination can be secured at reduced costs.

10. THAT the farming practices, crops grown and rates of payment vary so widely that it is not possible to establish uniform standards for deductions of areas in a field not devoted to the use to which the field is devoted; that in view of this the State committee with the approval of the Director of the Division establish such standards keeping in mind the effectuation of the purposes of the Act.

11. THAT facilities be made available for the rectification of aerial enlargements to eliminate tilt.

A number of other questions such as use of farm maps, cut-outs, or other substitutes for photographs by supervisors or farm reporter; whether subdivision and changed field boundary lines should be scaled in by the supervisor (farm reporter) or by the county office; the extent to which acreages of new ground and changed fields should be computed rather than plotted and planimetered on the enlargement; methods of determination of the acreages of small tracts of land; how large should an area be before it should be plotted and planimetered on the enlargements; estimation of acreages of crops and land uses other than allotment crops; and relative merits of planimeters and rotometers were thoroughly discussed, but due to the widely varying conditions to be met in the various Regions and States we are making no specific recommendations. We do, however, recommend that during the ensuing year further study be made of these problems and every effort made to attain uniformity in usage between States where comparable problems exist.

11. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

In summarizing its views, the committee observes by way of a preface to its recommendations:

1. That the AAA is the property of the public, held in trust by farmers; and that as representatives of the farmers, committeemen have a signal responsibility in these perilous times to champion their cause and get the AAA message across.

2. That the present world conditions emphasize the need for well-trained, well-informed committeemen as the hub of an effective educational program.

3. That all channels of enlightenment should be used and every agency in a position to cooperate should continuously re-emphasize and drive home the fundamentals of the farm program--stressing particularly the fact that conservation is the best way to keep the land and the people in readiness for any emergency, and the fact that the Ever-Normal-Granary stands as a bulwark of strength and preparedness in times like these.

4. That all who have shared in educational work so far are to be congratulated on the job they have already done, but that education is a continuous process; that many individuals and groups among farmers and the public generally lack even so much as a basic knowledge of the program, and we can never afford to let down.

5. That, in line with present decentralization trends of AAA informational work, committeemen and others should study the following suggested ways and means of getting the job done, with the view of adapting them, with whatever alterations may be necessary, to their own particular situations.

6. The committee recommends, wherever feasible and within budgetary and administrative limits,

7. That the use of the visual media be expanded.

8. That motion pictures be used not only to stimulate a better understanding of the program, but also more generally to stimulate attendance at meetings.

9. That the production of movies and film strips of local interest be stressed.

10. That the use of pictographs for putting ideas in visual terms be continued, and that the present favorable position of agriculture in the national preparedness program be presented by some special, graphic kind of material.

11. That mats for newspaper distribution be more extensively used and that those used be of state or local interest if possible.

12. That exhibits for fairs and other uses be relatively small and mobile; that they present a simple, concrete idea; and that they be timely and of local interest.

13. That preparation and use of charts be continued as a means of re-emphasizing fundamental economic facts.

14. That continued emphasis be placed on discussion meetings as a means of informing and obtaining the cooperation of the rank and file of farmers and town people.

15. That farmer-businessmen meetings be continued as a proved means of effectively reaching town people and developing militant farmer leadership.

16. That to be most effective, these meetings be sponsored and conducted by farmers who have obtained sufficient informational background to present in their own words the information needed for discussion.

17. That in areas where a substantial labor interest is present, study be given by the AAA to means of establishing understanding of the common interest of farmer and labor groups, through discussion meetings or otherwise.

18. That meetings to inform and fortify committeemen for the informational job be continued on regional, state, county and community levels.

19. That to further equip committeemen for this job, information letters direct from the state office to committeemen be used; that committeemen be encouraged to attend state college Farm and Home weeks, and that tours be planned for committeemen beyond their local community.

20. That state and county committees keep vocational agriculture workers informed about AAA plans and meetings, either through representation on state and county AAA educational committees or through direct contact, and that arrangements be made in this way for distribution of materials to teachers.

21. That committees establish contacts with the state commissioner of education and county superintendents of schools; that when requested speakers be provided for educational meetings; that educators' names be included on special mailing lists; and that when invited state and county AAA field workers be prepared to go into the schools with lectures, pictures and literature.

22. That personal contacts be established with public officials by qualified committeemen or representatives.

23. That committeemen be instructed in the techniques of discussion.

24. That slides, movies or film strips be made available to farm organization meetings, and that provisions be considered for reaching women's groups among others already mentioned.

25. That house organs be used to build committeeman morals and inform them of current developments, but that careful attention be given to the selection and preparation of material to achieve those ends.

26. That informational material be carefully adapted for the level on which it is to be used; that it be short and simplified; and that while the present emergency may call for somewhat more mailings to committeemen than in normal times, state and county offices should avoid sending out too much material as a general thing.

27. That materials for distribution to farmers and the public generally be illustrated and printed if possible, but that for extremely timely subjects and for material for administrative use, mimeograph may be preferable.

28. That means be developed for a limited amount of printing, on rush jobs, to be done in the states.

29. That as radio techniques, the question-and-answer type of broadcast and the series type of broadcast be considered.

30. That as much local thought go into radio materials as possible, but that a qualified person aid with and instruct on the technical job of writing scripts.

31. That committeemen establish cordial personal relations with their newspaper and radio heads, and that local stories be stressed.

32. That qualified information men be assigned in the state offices.

33. That releases be kept short and factual, and that pictures be used insofar as possible to illustrate printed matter.

34. That committeemen develop the most complete understanding with all agencies of information, and that they meet with local representatives of educational agencies from time to time to plan an effective county and community educational program for reaching all groups, and provide the proper service and encouragement to get the best job done.

12. ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Administration makes recommendations to the National Conference on the following subjects:

Ways and Means of Reducing County Expenses and the Proration of Expenses between Appropriations.

1. Means of Economizing Without Reducing Efficiency.

(a) Improvement in office housing, organization and management, including (a) space of proper size, lighting and comfort; (b) suitable equipment properly arranged; (c) proper and efficient filing system; (d) office personnel properly selected, trained, and supervised; (e) field personnel properly selected, trained, and supervised.

(b) One member of each State Committee should be responsible for reviewing county estimates and expenses as analyzed by auditors and accountants and for advising fieldmen and county committees regarding corrections and improvements which should be made.

(c) Recognize and encourage the county office job cost study now being undertaken by several States in selected counties and by the Office of Budget and Finance,

and recommend that the information developed be disseminated among Division and State Offices when available.

- (d) That endeavor be made to accomplish earlier issuance of forms in order that (a) farm plan and estimate sheets and similar information may be obtained from farmers more economically, and (b) county office work may be spread more evenly over the year.

2. Allocation of Expense to Programs.

Recognize special studies now being conducted by certain States and the Office of Budget and Finance in selected counties and encourage further study to the end that as simple a method as practicable be developed for use in State and county offices in order that a more uniform policy of distribution may be developed.

3. Assignments.

That no changes be made.

4. Non-deductible Allocation.

At the present time no change in national total amount recommended.

Selection, Training and Use of State Office Field Men Contacting County Offices.

- 5. The Committee heartily endorses the democratic practices that are used at the present time in selecting and training personnel of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration offices and recommend that they be continued. We recommend that the district field men who are to assist in the administration of the Agricultural Conservation Program be selected from the following categories, if possible:
 - (a) Farmers with actual farming experience and also with county committee experience, if available.
 - (b) Men who have been in charge of county offices and have had farm background and experience, or
 - (c) Other county or State office employees with as much agricultural training and experience, as possible.
- 6. In the training of new district field men we suggest that they first be taken into State offices where another field man or a State office representative will introduce them to the head of sections and familiarize them with State office operations; we suggest

that after a thorough schooling these new field employees be accompanied in the field by experienced district men who will observe and assist them in becoming familiar with their duties. Further training will be secured in regular monthly or bi-monthly field training meetings at the State offices under the supervision and direction of State office officials who are familiar with the procedures and operations of those counties which have proven to be most efficiently operated.

7. The district field man shall be a representative of the State Committee in his district to unify and coordinate the work of the State and county offices. It shall be his duty to contact producers, committeemen and office personnel in all phases of the program; to direct and give general supervision to all work done by the county offices; to assist the county and community committeemen in educational activities. He shall have charge of all State office employees who are detailed to the counties to perform special tasks, and it is his duty to make recommendations as to the program and administrative matters, and to assist the county committee in any way possible to promote efficient county office operations. We believe that the efficient and satisfactory operation of the Agricultural Conservation Program in the States is largely dependent upon the selection of intelligent, loyal, efficient and technically trained persons for the positions of district field men. We believe that this program of broad, thorough in-service training for district field men should be stressed by the Administration.
8. We suggest that the district field men familiarize themselves with county association procedure sufficiently to supervise all county fiscal matters including the interpretation of the audit of accounts and assistance in the preparation of county association budgets; we recommend that auditors from the State or regional office make a complete audit of all county association accounts and records at least once a year, but preferably twice a year or as often as the State committee deems necessary.

County Office Space, Equipment, Filing and Record-keeping.

9. The Committee calls attention to the importance of adequate and comfortable office space for each county office, and recommends that this be given attention in each State in accordance with the needs and facilities within the State; and also the needs, conditions and facilities within each county.
10. We call attention to the fact that in some counties local sponsors -- usually the county board of revenue -- have obtained county activities buildings for housing Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Extension, and other public agencies, doing this as either W.P.A. or P.W.A. projects.

11. We recommend that the Agricultural Adjustment Administration assemble information from every available source as to how to proceed in sponsoring and obtaining county buildings for housing Agricultural Adjustment Administration work, and that the information so assembled be sent to all persons in each State who may need it.
12. For the convenience of farm people and efficiency of work we advocate keeping all agricultural activities in each county under one roof, either in a building built especially for this purpose, or by obtaining the best space available in the county through cooperative effort.
13. We recommend that the Administrator investigate the possibilities of having some concern make available to county associations better cabinets than are now available for storing aerial photographs; and that the Administrator continue his efforts to reach a satisfactory solution to the problem of disposing of old files.
14. We recommend that the office equipment in each county be modern and adequate, that the files be systematic and complete, and that each county office be arranged and conducted for efficient and effective service to farmers. To obtain these objectives, we recommend that each State office assist the county offices in improving their filing systems.

Annual Elections of Agricultural Conservation Association Committeemen.

The Committee recommends that:

15. The time, method and manner of holding the community elections is an administrative problem to be handled by the Regional Divisions in a manner consistent with the present Articles of Association with a view to obtaining maximum attendance at the election meetings;
16. As an aid in securing better attendance at community election or nominating meetings, available information relative to the new crop year program be given out at the meetings and that the notice of the meetings include information that the new program will be discussed;
17. Since it is desirable that the community chairman also be the delegate to the county convention, farmers should be definitely advised by the Regional Divisions and State Offices that the same person is eligible to serve in both capacities; and
18. County committees in cooperation with State committees be encouraged to give written examinations to all applicants for office positions where such employment is expected to

extend beyond a temporary period, or that in lieu of such examination any person hired for a permanent office position be placed in a temporary status pending demonstration of fitness for the position.

13. COMMODITY LOANS

Commodity loans involve other agencies in the Department and copies of the complete report are being made available to the agencies concerned. Following is a summary of the recommendations contained in the report:

1. That to assure orderly marketing of wheat the maturity dates of loans on wheat stored in warehouses be staggered.
2. That the resealing on approved farm storage be continued.
3. Where loans are made on grains other than special crops that such loan rates be set at a lower percentage of parity price than those established for special crops.
4. That all Government lending agencies insert a clause in their lending or commitment contract with or to any farmers' cooperative pool or other agency dealing with or making loans and advances to producers that no person, partnership, association, or corporation be eligible for a loan or advance unless the acreage or production is not in excess of the applicable quota or allotment.
5. That loan price differentials on cotton be developed on a zone or area basis rather than on an individual warehouse value basis. This will insure the growers in all areas approximately an equal percentage of the market value of their cotton which is placed in the loan and will simplify the administration of the loan program.
6. That cotton loans be made at the highest rate justifiable under existing conditions.
7. That cotton loans be made on a net weight basis in the belief that such a plan will encourage the use of cotton as bagging.

14. SUGAR BEETS AND SUGAR CANE

Recommendations concerning procedure to be followed in establishing proportionate shares.

Sugar Beets -

1. (a) The committee recommends that the proportionate share for the farm for 1941 be the planted acres, if conditions make it possible under the provisions of the sugar act.
- (b) The committee recommends that, if restrictive proportionate shares are necessary, the sugar beet acreage allotments be made to counties instead of to factory districts, and that individual farm allotments be established by county agricultural conservation committees.

2. It is recommended that in case of unused acreage in any county, such acreage may be transferred to another county or counties in the State by the State committee or may be transferred to a county in another State with the approval of A.A.A. In distributing the unused acreage from a county, the State committee should give consideration among other things to counties with the largest cut from the previous year's planted acreage, to counties having the ability and facilities for sugar beet production, and to counties within the same factory district. Unused acreage from a State will revert to the A.A.A. for redistribution to another State.

3. The committee recommends that, in establishing individual farm allotments, the county committee shall consider the following items:

- (a) Consideration shall first be given to history on the farm with the years in the base period uniform for all growers in a county, such base period for the county to be determined by the State committee.
- (b) Consideration shall be given to ability to produce, such as experience of the grower, facilities for sugar beet production and suitability of land.
- (c) Consideration shall be given to the interest of new growers and of small growers.

Sugar Cane -

Puerto Rico

4. The committee recommends that in establishing proportionate shares for old growers that the 1940 procedure be continued. With respect to new growers for 1941, it is recommended that no proportionate shares be given except to resettlement farmers such as those established

by Farm Security Administration or the Puerto Rico Reconstruction Administration; the proportionate share to any such farmer be limited to not more than 15 tons of sugar (or its approximate equivalent of 5 acres of sugar cane, if it is found desirable to make such proportionate shares in terms of acres).

Louisiana and Florida

5. The committee recommends the same procedure for establishing proportionate shares for growers in 1941 as was used in 1940.

Farming practices.

Sugar beets -

6. The same farming practices are recommended for 1941 as were in effect for 1940.

Sugar cane -

7. The committee recommends that the same basic farming practices be required as for the 1940 program.

Administration of the labor provisions of the Sugar Act.

8. The committee recommends that inasmuch as the present methods of administering labor provisions of the Sugar Act are working satisfactorily, no change is recommended for 1941.

Definition of a farming unit.

9. The committee recommends that there be no change made in the definition of a farming unit under the sugar program.

It is understood that these recommendations are contingent upon the present Sugar Act being continued.

15. CROP INSURANCE

1. This Committee recommends that there be no material changes in the methods of pricing used in insuring wheat for harvest in 1941 from that prevailing in 1940.

2. We recommend that the Corporation make every effort to develop a plan for determining price for immediate settlement as near as possible to the date of adjusting losses.

3. This Committee recommends a continuation of the deferred settlement plan and requests that the 30-day period be continued in effect for the 1942 program.

4. This Committee recommends that the present plan of handling meritorious cases be continued, but ask that more care be exercised by states and counties in giving more complete and detailed information to the Corporation on these cases.

5. This Committee recognizes that the securing of actual wheat production figures is of as much importance to the Crop Insurance Program as measured acreage figures. Therefore we recommend that a greater effort be made to secure accurate individual farm production.

It is generally understood that the yields as established for the 1941 program are satisfactory in most counties. However, there may be some counties in which certain revisions will be needed; therefore we recommend that the method used in determining need of revision and subsequent approval will be followed through essentially as it was for the 1941 program.

6. It is recommended that the county, state, and branch offices be coordinated to a greater degree of efficiency whereby cases such as cancelation, transfers, assignments, and special memoranda be handled in a manner more nearly current. This would effect a greater acceptance of the program and give little opportunity for grievances that arise.

7. This Committee feels that the establishing of earlier closing dates for the acceptance of applications has largely solved any question as to crop insurance taken on the basis of probable crop prospects.

This Committee recommends that a study be made of the possibilities of offering insurance to the farmer for a period of more than one year. This would further eliminate the possibilities of selectivity in the insurance.

8. The question with respect to insuring the top 75 percent of the average yield was discussed at some length. It was thought that this plan has considerable merit.

We therefore recommend that further study be given this question by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. It is realized, however, that this plan cannot be placed in operation until enabling legislation is provided.

9. In considering the administrative difficulties involved in the settlement of losses, it was the consensus of opinion that so far as possible the settlement of losses be delayed until the harvest season or at least until the crop is headed out or to that season when wheat ordinarily heads out. In expressing this opinion, the Committee realizes that the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation must be in a position to pay losses whenever such losses are definitely determined.

We, therefore, recommend that so far as possible adjustments be made only at harvesttime and that administrative costs incurred in early inspection of allegedly damaged crops be held to a minimum.

We further recommend and urge that emphasis be placed on securing a better understanding of the duties and privileges of the producer under the Crop Insurance contract through better administrative and educational programs in the counties.

10. It is the opinion of this Committee that the Crop Insurance Program for wheat has fully proved the adequacy and effectiveness of such program to the point where definite consideration should be given to enlarging the program to include other commodities.

We, therefore, recommend that a program of Crop Insurance for cotton, corn, tobacco, and other commodities be placed in operation as soon as the necessary actuarial data are available and enabling legislation is provided.